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Letter, 16 November 1860, [Charleston, South Carolina], E[dward] G. D[ill] to "Friend Charley"

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Letter, 16 November 1860, written and signed by an individual only identified as E.G.D. to “Friend Charley” describes economic and political climate in Charleston after the election of Abraham Lincoln. The writer informs that “it is all Secession here live or die.” The city was filled with “Lone Star flags,” and “Col Sam Colts Brother is here getting orders.” That day citizens had “raised a large liberty pole...in front of the Charleston Hotel,” in preparation to “fire 15 guns under it to morrow and have stump speeches on a pile of ten Bales of Cotton.” Much of the letter is dedicated to the precarious economic conditions that existed in the city. Goods from the North were not being imported, there was a “panic in the money market,” and “wholesale houses are discharging all their clerks and shutting up their Stores.” The writer predicted that if “it falls off as fast for two weeks to come as it has for two weeks back we shall all be out of business.” He closed by expressing his hope that he would hear from the recipient soon, but worried the “mail will be cut off soon,” as “there is going to be trouble if S.C. and the rest of the States cannot secede quietly, for the South is bound to have her own way or die in the attempt.”

Outside sources indicate that the letter writer could have possibly been Edward G. Dill (1836–1880), an employee of the *Charleston Mercury*. **Acquired for the Library by the University South Caroliniana Society.**